WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound having the formula I, or a salt thereof:

$$X - (Glu)_p - (AA^1)_q - AA^2 - Y$$

I

wherein Glu is a glutamic acid residue wherein the gamma-carboxy group of said glutamic acid residue is a free carboxylic acid or a C₁₋₃ alkyl ester;

AA¹ is an amino acid residue having the formula

AA² is an amino acid residue having the formula

X is a difunctional group selected from CH₂ and carbonyl;

Y is selected from the group consisting of OH and NR₂;

Each \mathbf{R} is independently selected from the group consisting of H and C₁₋₆ alkyl, said C₁₋₆ alkyl being linear or branched;

A is a substituent selected from the group consisting of CH₃, CF₃, and halogen;

Each ${\bf B}$ is a substituent selected from the group consisting of ${\bf H}$, $-{\bf CF_2PO_3(R)_2}$ and

m is 0, 1, or 2; each n is independently 0, 1, or 2; p is 0, 1, or 2; and q is 0, 1, or 2.

2. A compound of Claim 1, wherein

Glu is a glutamic acid residue, wherein the gamma carboxy group of said glutamic acid residue is a free carboxylic acid or a methyl ester; m is O or 1; each n is independently 0 or 1; and p is 0 or 1.

3. A compound of Claim 2, wherein

Each A is a halogen independently selected from F, C1, Br, and I; Each group B is a substituent selected from $-CF_2PO_3H_2$ and

Y is NH_2 ;

R is H; and q is 0 or 1.

4. A compound of Claim 3, wherein Glu is a glutamic acid residue in which the gamma carboxy group is a free carboxylic acid residue.

- 5. A compound of Claim 1, wherein AA¹ and AA² are each phenylalanine residues, wherein the substituents on the phenyl ring of said phenylalanine residues are as defined in Claim 1.
- 6. A compound of Claim 1, wherein AA¹ and AA² are amino acid residues having the formula

Wherein each A is independently selected from the group consisting of Br

and I;

m is 0 or 1; each n is independently 0 or 1; p is 0 or 1; q is 0 or 1; and Y is NH₂.

7. A compound according to Claim 1, wherein AA¹ is an amino acid residue having the formula:

wherein Glu is a glutamic acid residue, the gamma-carboxy group of said glutamic acid residue being a free carboxylic acid or methyl ester; AA^2 is a phenylalanine residue of the formula

$$-HN \xrightarrow{C-} A_n$$

Each A is independently selected from the group consisting of Br and I; Y is –NH₂;

R is H;

m is 0 or 1;

each n is independently 0 or 1;

p is 0 or 1; and

q is 0 or 1.

- 8. A compound of Claim 7, wherein Glu is a glutamic acid residue in which the gamma carboxy group is a free carboxylic acid residue.
- 9. A compound of Claim 1, or a salt thereof, having a structural formula selected from the group consisting of: